

HISTORY GRADUATE PROGRAMME NEWSLETTER

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Welcomes Abound!

The new academic year brings with it many new faces. Welcome to MA students Monica Beauchamp, George Biloserskyj, Dora Cohen, Scott Jamieson, Elizabeth Kulczar, Nick Katalifos, Sherri Mason, Gesche Peters, Ann Ross, Stanley Roth, Katherine Taylor and Sandi Viger. Welcome to PhD students Mike Duckett, Christine Kemp, Elizabeth Speyer, and Ivan Wang, all of whom combine to increase our intake of new students from twelve in '87 to sixteen in '88.

Welcome to Dr. Rosemarie Schade, who joins the Department as Assistant Professor this fall in Womens' History and German History. Dr. Schade holds her doctorate from the University of York (U.K.) and has taught at York University (Ontario), Guelph, Victoria and Memorial Universities before coming to Concordia. Dr. Schade's office will be on the Loyola Campus.

Welcome to Prof. Neil Heyman, from San Diego State University in California on a year's exchange with Prof. Fred Bode. Prof. Heyman specializes in Russian History; his office will be at SGW.

Welcome back to Prof. John Laffey, from sabbatical leave, and to Prof. John Hill, Director of the Indo-Canadian Shastri Foundation in New Delhi since Jan. '87. Profs. Franziska Shiosser and Richard Diubaldo go on leave for the term.

History 601 at the Starting Gate

This year also brings with it the revamped MA non-thesis option, approved in the spring of 1987. In lieu of the former Research Seminar, students beginning this option from here on will register for History 601: "Historical Methods and Approaches". This consists of two simultaneous parts: a seminar in which different members of faculty present individual methods of historical research, and a research tutorial, where each student works individually with a research advisor. The seminar will meet for the first eight or nine weeks and for the last four weeks of the academic year.

As part of the intention of the History 601 seminars is to provide a common meeting ground for students in every field, all students not enrolled in it are invited to sit in if they wish. The seminars meet Mondays at 6 on the Sir George Campus, and will be coordinated by Prof. Walter Van Nus.

Learning the 'Programme Director Shuffle': (one easy lesson)

For the first semester of this academic year (September 1st to December 31st) Prof. Steve Scheinberg will sit in for Robert Tittler as Graduate Programme Director. Scheinberg's Office is on the Sir George Campus (N-220-2, tel. 848-2411).

Movings on (Sigh!)

The new year also brings with it movings on: Richard Duchesne to York University, where he has a fellowship for the PhD Programme in Social and Political Thought; Dolores Chew to the University of Calcutta, where she will work toward her PhD; Janis Housez to McGill, where she will serve as a T.A. while working toward her PhD.

Fellowships Right and Left

Our Graduate Students fellowship and grant yield continues to grow. Scott Jamieson and Mike McDevitt have won FCAR MA Fellowships from the Quebec Government, while Janis Housez has won an FCAR PhD Fellowship. Dolores Chew and Diane Shea have won both SSHRC and Commonwealth Scholarships to pursue work at the PhD level in Indian History, the former at the university of Calcutta and the latter in our own programme. Richard Duchesne has won a doctoral fellowship at York University, while 1987 Concordia MA graduate Micheline Lessard has received fall fellowship to continue her study of the Vietnamese language at the East-West Center of the University of Hawaii this summer, part of her PhD program at Cornell University. Jean Morrison has won a Shell Oral History Grant for interviews connected with her MA research on Omer Heroux. In addition, three Concordia University Fellowships and one Concordia University Teaching Fellowship were offered to students who, for one reason or another, chose not to accept.

Remember, Fellowship deadlines for NEXT year begin in October!

McCulloch Prize for 1987-88

The winner of the McCulloch Prize for the best MA Essay of the academic year has been awarded to Maryann Farkas for her essay entitled, "Best of Enemies, Quebec Doctors and the State, 1930-1970" (supervisor: Prof. Vipond). Congratulations Maryann!

At its last meeting of this past academic year the Department redefined the terms of the McCulloch Prize, for which only MA Essays have hitherto been eligible. Henceforth the Prize will be awarded for the Best MA Essay once every two years, and for the best MA Thesis in the alternate two year period. The 1988-9 award will thus be for the best MA Thesis written between '87 and '89.

Teaching Assistants

The roster of our Teaching Assistants looks a lot different this year, as several talented newcomers join in. Gesche Peters (BA, University of Winnipeg), will join Sherri Mason (BA, Concordia) as Assistants in European History; Chris Kemp, Jimmy Manson and Mike Duckett will share duties in Canadian History. A series of Workshops in Teaching Techniques will again be on offer and open to all graduate students. Watch this space!

The Annual Reception for Graduate Students and Faculty

The Third Annual Reception will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tittler on Sunday afternoon, September 18th, 3-5 PM. All are welcome at 4078 Hampton Avenue in N.D.G. RSVP to Linda McDonald (848-2414) by Friday, September 16th.

Student Affairs

Congratulations to those who have finished up their MA work over the summer months: Richard Duchesne, working on Marxist Interpretations of the French Revolution and Owen Turner working on Canadian Press Reaction to the South African Crisis.

Congratulations to PhD student Minko Sotiron and MA student David Garon, both of whom read papers at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Historical Association, held this past May in Windsor. Owen Turner's MA research was discussed at the annual meeting of the Canadian Society for African Studies in Kingston, also in May, and his article 'The Education of Michael Valpy' has been published in Southern Africa Report, vol. III, no. 5, May, 1988. Ivan Wang has published three poems in The Hong Kong Literary Monthly and three more in the China Daily News. (It's not every Canadian History Graduate Programme which boasts a publishing Chinese poet!)

Thesis Defense: Jean-Paul Coupal

Jean-Paul Coupal will defend his doctoral thesis on September 9th at 2 PM in Hall Bldg. 769 : Les Pestifères. L'Historiographie bainvillienne...au XXe siècle. The examiners include thesis director Geoffrey Adams, plus Profs. John Laffey, and William Hubbard of History, Paul D'Hollander of French Studies, and Prof. Enzo Cappadoccio of McMaster University, the External Examiner. This is a public defense and all are invited to attend. Bonne Chance, Jean-Paul!

Departmental Evaluation this Year

This is the year for the periodic External Evaluation of our Graduate Programme in History. The Board of Graduate Studies will name an Evaluation Panel consisting of several Concordia faculty and administrators plus one External Examiner. The latter will be drawn from a list of nominees submitted by the Department this past spring. Our submission consists of several documents which will be submitted in early September. Faculty are reminded to submit to Linda their CV forms which were distributed for this purpose. These must be sent in with the rest of the Department's dossier. The Evaluation itself will include a visit by the panel to the Department and interviews with selected students and faculty. This will probably take place in January. More anon!